

Fusion Energy Foundation ↓

G.P.O. Box 1943 New York, New York 10001 (212) 563-8645

2/4/79

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
President
Rockefeller University
1230 York Ave at 66 St.
New York, NY 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Following up on our phone conversation of several months ago, I hope you have had the opportunity to examine the materials I sent you, or to parcel them out to the appropriate members of your staff. (There were several issues of our magazine, Fusion, which ~~last~~ dealt with a number of theoretical problems in biology, such as the embryology of the neural connection of the retina to the brain.)

In the next issue of Fusion, which I will mail to you shortly, I've written an article on the importance of basic research and technology in the current health care system, emphasizing that the way to reduce medical costs is to improve technology, thus making health care more efficient. The context for this issue is, of course, Kennedy's health care bill, which would guarantee not only large-scale cuts in services but also cutbacks in basic biological and biomedical research. Kennedy's pharmaceutical bill in the past congress, which would have gutted private pharmaceutical research by shortening de facto patent rights, clearly demonstrates his attitude toward research.

In doing some background research on Kennedy, we have brought some interesting material to light. Dwarfing the scandal of his health care cutbacks is the information that his family is multiply connected by intermarriage to the health insurance industry, particularly to the British-based reinsurance industry which the federal government, under his health care legislation, would be paying to run the U.S. health care system. If you or any of your associates are interested in following this up we can supply you with a full background of the insurance situation. As I'm sure you are aware, Califano's research policy is strongly influenced by Kennedy and by Kennedy's influence on President Carter.

I am enclosing a schedule of physics seminars sponsored by the FEF, to give you an idea of the kind of role we are currently playing in the theoretical and applied physics community. These seminars will be followed by a series of talks in biophysics during the period from early April to late May. We would be delighted to have you or members of your staff speak at these events on topics in genetics, embryology, cell biology, and so on; and of course you and your staff are invited to attend these events. ✓

Sincerely,

Ned Rosinsky
Ned Rosinsky, M.D.